



135. N. Main Street
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WALLINGFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT



John J. Ventura
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News Release

Date: April 26, 2023

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Juvenile Arrested after String of Thefts in Wallingford

On April 26, 2023 around 10:24AM, Wallingford Police responded to 51 South Whittlesey Avenue for the report of three juvenile males wearing dark clothing working together trying to steal cars in the driveway/parking lot. They were operating out of a silver Hyundai sedan with a driver. They damaged one vehicle in the process.

At 10:28AM, Wallingford Police officers responded to Sunoco (315 North Colony Road) for a reported purse theft from an unoccupied vehicle involving three juvenile males wearing masks operating a silver Hyundai sedan. The suspects made off with the victims purse containing numerous items.

At 11:20AM, Wallingford Police officers responded to a reported purse theft from an unoccupied vehicle at Pit Stop Gas Station (66 Woodhouse Avenue). Officers discovered that a silver Hyundai sedan occupied by three juvenile males wearing dark clothing and masks attempted to steal a victim's purse from their car, dragged the victim approximately 20 feet, and fled the scene. The theft attempt was unsuccessful and the victim was not injured.

In all three cases, the suspect descriptions and suspect vehicle were the same. The silver Hyundai was determined to be stolen out of New Haven prior to the thefts. The silver Hyundai was used to steal another vehicle (a red Ford Edge) in North Haven after the events that occurred in Wallingford. With assistance from Wallingford Police Officer Peckham, who is assigned to the Connecticut State Police Violent Crimes Task Force, members of the task force located and tracked both stolen vehicles to Edwards Street and Read Street in New Haven.



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Upon locating the Hyundai, stop sticks were utilized to prevent the vehicle from escaping. The suspect fled from officers on foot but was quickly apprehended. One male juvenile who was determined to be the sole occupant/operator of the stolen Hyundai was placed under arrest. The Ford Edge fled upon being located, but was found nearby unoccupied.

The juvenile was charged with violation of Connecticut General Statutes 53a-119c- Larceny of a Motor Vehicle, and 53a-167a- Interfering with an officer, 53a-49/53a-119c- Criminal attempt at Larceny of a Motor Vehicle, 53a-103- Burglary 3rd degree, 53a-125b- Larceny 6th Degree, 53a-49/53a-103- Criminal Attempt at Burglary 3rd Degree, 53a-49/53a-125b- Criminal Attempt at Larceny 6th Degree, and 53a-64- Reckless Endangerment. He was issued a juvenile summons with a court date of 4-27-2023 at 9:00AM at Superior Court Juvenile Matters at 239 Whalley Avenue in New Haven.

Members of the Wallingford Police Patrol Division, Detective Division, and the Connecticut State Police Violent Crimes Task Force conducted this investigation. Please contact (203)294-2800 or visit <https://www.police.wallingfordct.gov> with any questions or further information. Case references 23-12657, 23-12658, 23-12662.